

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 RSC-01 /019 W

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P R 021950Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9369

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 0015

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, AR

SUBJECT: CGE TRADE MISSION TO THE U.S.

REF: A) BA 9753; B) FA 9018; C) STATE 279977; D) BA 9333

1. TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE DEPARTURE OF THE TRADE MISSION,
THE EMBASSY FINDS THE CGE'S PREPARATIONS FOR THE
MISSION CONTINUE TO BE DEFICIENT AND ARE BEHIND
SCHEDULE. WE FEEL THEIR LACK OF COORDINATION WITH THE
ARGENTINE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND THEIR CONSULATE
IN NEW YORK, AS WELL AS A LATE START, ARE RESPONSIBLE.
WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW YORK,
MR. FEDERICO BERNINI, HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS COORDINATOR FOR
THE NEW YORK LEG AND THAT AMBASSADOR ORFILA IS PERSONALLY
TAKING CHARGE OF THE WASHINGTON LEG.

2. WE REALIZE THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR A SUCCESSFUL
COMMERCIAL MISSION LIES WITH THE ARGENTINE OFFICIALS,
AND WE HAVE MADE THIS CRYSTAL CLEAR TO THE CGE.
NEVERTHELESS, WE REITERATE THAT IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF
THE U.S.-ARGENTINE TRADE AND GENERAL RELATIONS THAT THE
GROUP BE ACCORDED A MINIMUM OF COURTESIES. THE EMBASSY
WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT WASHINGTON AND
NEW YORK UNDERTAKE THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC NON
COMMERCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE GROUP: (1) MEET THEM AND
FACILITATE THEIR PASSAGE THROUGH CUSTOMS; (2) IN COOPERATION
WITH THE ARGENTINE CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK ENCOURAGE
AN APPROPRIATE NEW YORK CHAMBER TO OFFER A FUNCTION IN
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HONOR OF THE VISITING ARGENTINES; (3) RECEIVE THE

OFFICIAL ELEMENT OF THE GROUP IN WASHINGTON, AND HOST SOME SORT OF FUNCTION FOR THEM, AS WELL AS OBTAINING RELEVANT APPOINTMENTS WITH APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIALS, AS TIMING PERMITS AND THE NAMES OF THE SPECIFIC OFFICIALS ARE AVAILABLE; (4) SEE THEM OFF.

3. THE OFFICIAL CONTIGENT WILL BE ARRIVING IN WASH ON THURSDAY, JAN 17 AND BE LEAVING THAT WEEK-END. WE ARE UNLIKELY TO KNOW THE NAMES OF THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES TRAVELLING WITH THE MISSION UNTIL THREE OR FOUR DAYS BEFORE THE MISSION'S DEPARTURE. ACCORDINGLY WE SUGGEST THAT A SINGLE ALL-PURPOSE FUNCTION TO WHICH APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIALS AND OTHERS (COUNTERPARTS OF THE OFFICIAL ARGENTINE DELEGATION) WOULD BE INVITED, BE HELD ON THE 16TH OR 17TH. APPOINTMENTS WITH APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIALS FOR THE OFFICIALS CONTINGENT AS A GROUP MIGHT ALSO BE MADE NOW, WITH SPECIFICALLY TAILORED APPOINTMENTS TO BE SET UP FEASIBLE ONCE WE HAVE THE LIST OF NAMES. WE SUPPOSE THAT AMBASSADOR ORFILA OR MR. BERNINI HAS BEEN WORKING ON NEW YORK BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO OFFER SOME FORM OF HOSPITALITY TO THE VISITORS. HOWEVER, NEITHER THE MISSION ORGANIZERS NOR THE EMBASSY ARE AWARE OF ANY RESULTS OF SUCH REPRESENTATIONS. WE THEREFORE, SUGGEST THAT USDOC DISTRICT OFFICE GET IN TOUCH WITH MR. BERNINI AND OFFER ANY ASSISTANCE IN THIS REGARD WHICH THEY FEEL THEY ARE IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE.

4. THE EMBASSY WILL BE OFFERING A FUNCTION IN BUENOS AIRES FOR THE BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS TRAVELLING WITH THE GROUP, SHORTLY BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE.

5. DR. ALFREDO GOMEZ MORALES, MINISTER OF ECONOMY, IS TRAVELING TO THE U.S. TO ATTEND THE MEETING OF THE GROUP OF TWENTY AT THE IMF. HOWEVER, GOMEZ MORALES, HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE IS TRAVELING INDEPENDENTLY OF THIS MISSION. OUR READING OF THIS IS NOT THAT GOMEZ MORALES IS TRYING TO PUT DOWN THE TRADE MISSION OR THE CGE, BUT SIMPLY THAT HE DOES NOT WISH TO BECOME CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH THE CGE AND ITS PROGRAMS AS WAS HIS PREDECESOR JOSE GELBARD. THE UNCLASSIFIED

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COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS IN NEW YORK, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ARGENTINE-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE PAN AMERICAN SOCIETY, AND THE CENTER FOR THE INTERAMERICAN RELATIONS ARE SPONSORING A BRIEFING CUM RECEPTION AND LUNCHEON, WHICH IS TO BEING AT 9:30, THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, IN NEW YORK. THE MINISTER IS TO GIVE A BREIFING ON ARGENTINE FOREIGN INVESTMENT POLICY. THE TRADE MISSION LEADERSHIP HAVE INVITED TO ATTEND, THIS FUCTION

WHICH, HOWEVER, IS IN HONOR OF GOMEZ MORALES AND NOT OR
THE TRADE MISSION. THE TRADE MISSION ITSELF PLANS TO
GIVE A COCKTAIL PARTY IN NEW YORK THE FOLLOWING DAY,
WEDNESDAY, 15, TO WHICH USG OFFICIALS WILL BE INVITED.
WE SUPPOSE AMBASSADOR ORFILA WILL ATTEND.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUENOS00015
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750002-1053
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741269/aaaacgsx.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BA 9753, 75 FA 9018, 75 STATE 279977, 75 BA 9333
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2002 by colstocv>; APPROVED <10 FEB 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CGE TRADE MISSION TO THE U.S.
TAGS: BEXP, AR
To: STATE COM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005